

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 01-41

Introduced by Council Member Miller and Council Member Chenoweth

Legislative Day No. 01-38 Date December 18, 2001

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Subsection F, of Section 216-21, Percolation test, of Article II, Design Standards, of Chapter 216, Sewage Disposal Systems, Private, of the Harford County Code as amended; to provide slope standards that are consistent with current State standards when developing pursuant to Conservation Development Standards; and generally relating to private sewage disposal systems.

By the Council, December 18, 2001

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: January 15, 2002

at: 7:15 p.m.

By Order: James E. Massey, Jr., Council Administrator

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on \_\_\_\_\_, and concluded on, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Council Administrator

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

Section 1. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Harford County, Maryland, that Subsection F, of Section 216-21, Percolation test, of Article II, Design Standards, of Chapter 216, Sewage Disposal Systems, Private, of the Harford County Code as amended, be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Chapter 216. Sewage Disposal Systems, Private.

Article II. Design Standards.

Section 216-21. Percolation test.

F. Effluent seepage area requirements. The total seepage area required shall be governed by the future availability of public sewerage. In the absence of public sanitary facilities and with favorable soil conditions, the following minimum effluent seepage areas will be required to be reserved for the use of the initial private waste disposal system and for subsequent expansion of the system should expansion prove necessary.

**Minimum Area of**

**Lot Reserved for**

**Waste Disposal**

**(square feet)**

**Public Sewer Priority**

100,000 (original system plus space for correction)

Immediate – 10 years

40,000 (original system plus space for 3 or more replacement systems)

No planned service

Conservation development,  
or lot pursuant to purchase of  
development rights program

No planned service

1	<b>Minimum Area</b>			<b>Minimum Effective</b>
2	<b>Reserved for</b>			<b>Side Wall</b>
3	<b>Waste Disposal</b>	<b>PERC Rate***</b>	<b>Slope</b>	<b>Absorption Area</b>
4	10,000 sq. ft.	2 – 10 min.	≤ [0-15] 25%	6 square feet
5	20,000 sq. ft.	11 - 20 min.	≤ [15] 25%	N/A
6	30,000 sq. ft.	21 – 30	≤ [20] 25%	N/A

7 \*\*\*System may be approved with greater than 30 minute rates provided the system is approved  
8 by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for the subdivision of land.

9 (1) The reserve area requirement indicated above is the minimum waste  
10 disposal area required. The minimum area may be greater if the area cannot support the initial  
11 disposal system and three recovery areas. At the time the plat is recorded, the disposal area  
12 required shall be based on a four bedroom dwelling. A minimum of three systems (initial and  
13 two recovery) or 10,000 sq. ft., whichever is greater, must be available on the lot.

14 (2) The off-site easement reserve area, if necessary, must be located adjacent  
15 to the lot or reasonable accessible to the lot for which the easement is established to serve, and it  
16 must be surrounded by a 15 foot construction or buffer easement.

17 (3) The corners of the septic reserve areas must be staked prior to PERC  
18 testing.

19 (4) A minimum of 2 test pits must b e dug in the initial 10,000 square feet of  
20 reserve area which is to be established on the lot. The Health Department may require additional  
21 test pits for a site to assure a reliable determination of subsurface conditions. A minimum of 2

1 test pits is required in the remainder of off-site easement reserve area. All PERC test holes are to  
2 field located by and engineer/surveyor and submitted on a sealed (signed) plat.

3 (5) Preliminary PERC test results will be required for all moderate to severe  
4 rated soils. A minimum of one satisfactory preliminary PERC test per reserve area is required,  
5 as permitted by COMAR.

6 (6) The initial system shall be installed on the highest contour(s) of the  
7 disposal area unless an alternate site is approved, in writing, by the Health Department prior to  
8 construction.

9 (7) No grading is permitted in the septic reserve area without written approval  
10 of the Health Department, and until all necessary permits are approved by the Department of  
11 Public Works, Sediment Control Division.

12 (8) Unless previously subject to an easement pursuant to the county's  
13 purchase of development rights program, the remaining land must have a restrictive covenant  
14 place upon it to prevent additional or future development.

15 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, that this Act shall take effect 60 calendar days from  
16 the date it becomes law.

EFFECTIVE:

*The Council Administrator does hereby certify  
that fifteen (15) copies of this Bill are immediately  
available for distribution to the public and the press.*

  
Council Administrator

HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 01-41

Brief Title) Sewage Disposal Systems--Private--Slope Standards

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

ENROLLED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD \_\_\_\_\_

Failed of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_\_ day of  
, 2002, at \_\_\_\_ p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Administrator

BY THE EXECUTIVE

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date \_\_\_\_\_

BY THE COUNCIL

THIS BILL NO. 01-41 WAS WITHDRAWN AT THE REQUEST OF THE SPONSOR IN  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION DAY 02-04 (February 5, 2002).